CLAIMS

1. In combination, a mercury arc lamp including an arc tube, said arc tube being mounted in a reflector bulb adapted to be screwed into a standard light bulb socket and an electronic ballast for ballasting said mercury arc lamp.

2. The combination of claim 1, wherein said mercury arc lamp is adapted to consume 60 W of power or less.

3. The combination of claim 1, wherein said standard light bulb socket is further provided with a pinch clamp fixture for clamping said socket to an object, said fixture being connected to said electronic ballast.

4. The combination of claim 1, wherein said electronic ballast is housed in a fixture and said fixture is integral to said socket so that said combination is adapted to be placed on a desk.

5. The combination of claim 4, wherein said housing further includes a timer operatively connected to said electronic ballast.

6. A method for projecting UV radiation comprising the steps of:

(c) providing a reflector with a mercury arc tube, said reflector having a base screwed into a standard light socket holder and an opposite end; and

(d) providing an electronic ballast for ballasting said mercury arc lamp;

wherein when said lighting said mercury arc tube is lit, UV radiation produced by said lit mercury arc tube is projected out of said opposite end.

7. A method for providing UVB radiation inside an enclosure, said method including the steps of:

(d) providing a reflector with a mercury arc tube, said reflector having a base screwed into a standard light socket holder and an opposite end;

(e) placing said reflector proximate said enclosure; and

(f) providing an electronic ballast for ballasting said mercury arc lamp;

wherein when said mercury arc tube is lit, UVB radiation produced by said mercury arc tube is projected out of said opposite end.

8. A method for projecting UVC radiation comprising the steps of:

(c) providing a reflector with a mercury arc tube, said reflector having a base screwed into a standard light socket holder and an opposite, open end; and

(d) providing an electronic ballast for ballasting said mercury arc tube;

wherein when said mercury arc tube is lit, UVC radiation produced by said mercury arc tube is projected out of said opposite, open end.

9. A method for projecting UV radiation for treating skin disorders or for assisting in the production of vitamin D, comprising the steps of:

(c) providing a reflector with a mercury arc tube, said reflector having a base screwed into a standard light socket holder and an opposite end;

(d) providing an electronic ballast for ballasting said mercury arc tube;

wherein when said mercury arc tube is lit, UV radiation produced by said mercury arc tube is projected out of said opposite end.

10. A method for projecting UV radiation for use as a germicide, comprising the steps of:

(c) providing a reflector with a mercury arc tube, said reflector having a base screwed into a standard light socket holder and an opposite end;

(d) providing an electronic ballast for ballasting said mercury arc tube;

wherein when said mercury arc tube is lit, UV radiation produced by said mercury arc tube is projected out of said opposite end.

11. A method for projecting UV radiation for curing materials, comprising the steps of:

(c) providing a reflector with a mercury arc tube, said reflector having a base screwed into a standard light socket holder and an opposite end;

(d) providing an electronic ballast for ballasting said mercury arc tube;

wherein when said mercury arc tube is lit, UV radiation produced by said mercury arc tube is projected out of said opposite end.